

JL
64
MAY 23 1963

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Armed Services Committee
House of Representatives

HONORABLE F. EDWARD HEBERT

On H. R. 3516, the Civil Defense Fallout Shelter Incentive Program

Mr. Hebert today announced that his Subcommittee of the Armed Services Committee will begin hearings on the Department of Defense's fallout shelter incentive program on Tuesday, May 28, at 10:00 a.m., in Room 313-A, Cannon House Office Building.

"This will be the first time in thirteen years that there has been a major hearing on Civil Defense by the Committee charged with legislative responsibility for Civil Defense, and will also be the first time during this long period that a specific fallout shelter program will be reviewed.

"The whole subject of fallout shelters", Hebert went on to say, "has been the subject of great controversy over the past few years. It goes up and down, depending on the world situation at the particular time. My own view is that there is a great deal more opinion than knowledge on the subject of fallout shelters.

"Because of the strength of opinion and the dearth of knowledge, at least among lay people, I am most anxious that these hearings be held in an atmosphere of complete objectivity. I think we should lay aside any preconceived ideas or prejudices that we may have and take a completely fresh look at the whole matter.

"Interest in appearing before the Committee as witnesses has been expressed by some of the best known names of the country, people high in Government, both Federal and State, and people prominent in the business and industrial community. We intend to hear them all.

"I'll make no predictions as to what will come out of the hearings, but I know that we're going to end up with a well-informed Armed Services Committee and, I hope, an equally informed public by the time we are through."